The world’s most effective animal protection organization, The HSUS is sustained by animal lovers who show their support in many ways. Thanks to their generosity and commitment, we’re able to carry on the work of confronting cruelty in all its forms.

Arthur Benjamin: On a Mission

After a series of life-changing experiences with rescued dogs, Utah philanthropist Arthur Benjamin founded American Dog Rescue with the goal of finding every dog a home. Now he’s never without foster dogs, doing better with a dog by my side than on my own,” he says.

His work caught the attention of The HSUS, and he was soon partnering with the organization to help animals in crisis. The relationship opened his eyes to the urgent need for The HSUS’s legislative work. “The problem is endless if we don’t find long-term solutions,” he says.

In 2011, Benjamin joined The HSUS’s National Council, an advisory body to the board and executive staff, and his work labeled The HSUS document the mass seal hunt. “It’s certainly about saving animals, whatever the species. “This is central to who I am as a human being.”

Pam Vincent: Keeping the Dream Alive

Pam Vincent’s connection to Black Beauty Ranch began many years ago when she read Cleveland Amory’s Ranch of Dreams. The story about the founding of the all-species sanctuary in Texas haunted the retired actress. “The whole intent of it was such a thing of beauty that I just couldn’t never give it up,” she says.

As a child, Vincent had spent summer days watching her dad—a “big, gentle, quiet man”—care for dogs, cats, and wild animals brought to his tiny veterinary hospital in the California foothills. Like him, she always felt more comfortable with animals than with people.

In 2000, her father passed away, and soon after, Vincent made her first trip to Black Beauty, falling in love with the “low-slung, calm, peaceful feeling of the place,” where exotic and domestic animals alike radiated contentment.

Since then, Vincent has visited at least once a year. She recently made a large donation to help fund, among other improvements, an on-site veterinary hospital—a project she knows her dad would have applauded.

“Six years later, she rolls happily on her back in the Florida grass. For her adopter, HSUS National Council member James Berwind, she exemplifies both the inexusable cruelty behind puppy mills and the great potential of the dogs rescued from them: “It brought it home, seeing how loving and incredible this dog is.”

James Berwind: “Climbing the Mountain”

After giving birth to stillborns in a Pennsylvania puppy mill, Riley was scheduled to be put down. Spared that fate by Philadelphia-based Main Line Animal Rescue, the labradoodle still had to deal with a severely distended stomach, infected ears, Lyme disease, and a tumor.

Six years later, she rolls happily on her back in the Florida grass. For her adopter, HSUS National Council member James Berwind, she exemplifies both the inexusable cruelty behind puppy mills and the great potential of the dogs rescued from them: “It brought it home, seeing how loving and incredible this dog is.”

Passionate about national issues—from the way dogs are treated as a “cash crop” in large commercial breeding facilities, to factory farms and inhumane roundups of wild horses—Berwind is also active with shelters in Philadelphia, Palm Beach, Fla., and Newport, R.I. Along with his three siblings, he donated start-up funds for The HSUS’s Pets for Life program in Philadelphia.

“I honestly feel like we are making progress in climbing the mountain,” he says of The HSUS’s capacity to expose cruelty and drive change. "...[That] is what really keeps me charged.”

Carlee and Laurie McGrath: It Runs in the Family

One’s partial to cats, and the other has a soft spot for dogs. Together they have a passion for creating a more humane world for all species. Founders of the McGrath Family Foundation, Carlee McGrath and her daughter Laurie are dedicated to financially supporting causes that help children and animals in need. “A common theme for us is abuse, neglect, or the underdog,” says Laurie, the cat lover.

When The HSUS brought the Proposition 2 campaign to California in 2008, the San Diego residents quickly joined the effort to give more space to farm animals. They made a generous gift to support TV ads encouraging Californians to vote for the ballot initiative, which passed overwhelmingly and set in motion a number of HSUS-led victories on extreme confinement in the years to come.

Since then, the McGraths have contributed to The HSUS’s Puppy Mills and Prevent Slaughtercampagns and have supported a renewed campaign against gestation crates. Says Laurie, “We like to support programs where we feel we can make a significant impact.”

Every gift you give, no matter how large or small, helps The HSUS protect more animals.

• Make a one-time gift or donate monthly through your credit card or bank account.*
• Participate in your office’s workplace giving, matching gift, or United Way campaign.
• Make a Kindred Spirits memorial gift, or donate to celebrate a special occasion.
• Make a non-cash gift of stocks, bonds, or a vehicle.
• Leave a legacy through a bequest or charitable gift annuity.

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*An HSUS membership is $35 a year and includes a subscription to All Animals magazine.